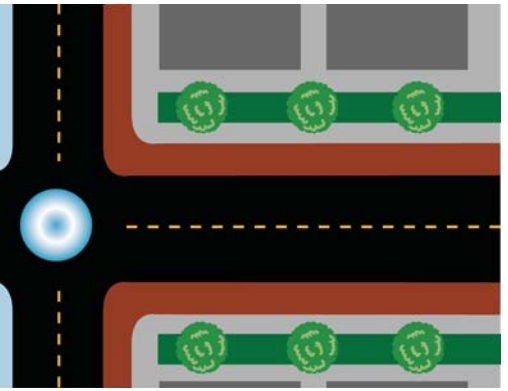




Virg Bernero, Mayor

# The Construction Observer

*Building  
Lansing's  
Future*



[www.LansingCSO.com](http://www.LansingCSO.com)

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## Adopt-A-River

This year's fall Adopt-A-River is expanding to include an afternoon of recreational and educational activities! The clean-up of the Grand River will take place on October 11 from 9am-11am, followed by a free catered lunch and complimentary admission to Impression 5 Science Center for volunteers.

From 11am-2pm, visitors will be invited to check out activity stations along the Lansing River Trail, including kayak and bait casting demonstrations, a stream monitoring workshop, and a Go Green! craft table. In addition to special discounts from Lansing City Market vendors, visitors will also receive a free water bottle!

To learn more about how to get involved with Adopt-A-River, visit [www.Impression5.org](http://www.Impression5.org) or call 517.485.8116.

## Going Forward

*September 27:* A free recycling collection for books, magazines, clothing, textiles, and more will be held Saturday, September 27 from 8am-12pm at the Delta Township Water Operations Facility, located at 7812 W. Willow. For more information, contact the City of Lansing's Waste Reduction Services at 517.483.4400 or [recycle@lansingmi.gov](mailto:recycle@lansingmi.gov).

## Editor's Note

Part four of the continuing series about pollutants in combined sewage will be included in the October 10 issue.

## Businesses for Clean Water Celebrate Benefits of CSO Control Program

Construction detours and road closings can wear on us, making it hard to remember why the City is working so hard on the Combined Sewer Overflow (CSO) Control Program in the first place. To remind us of the benefits and show appreciation to CSO workers, the businesses of the Principal Shopping District (PSD) have formed Businesses for Clean Water.



"The construction has, of course, come with its challenges. But when you look at the big picture, the benefits of the project — cleaner water and reduced pollution for our city — far outweigh the temporary inconvenience," said PSD director Mindy Biladeau.

Sewer separation construction reduces overflows by an average of 585 million gallons each year. When the 30-year program is completed, 1.65 billion gallons of CSO pollution will be prevented from overflowing into the river annually.

To kick off the new program, the Radisson Hotel hosted a free lunch on Monday, September 22 for the construction workers who are working on Grand Avenue. The main entry to the Radisson Hotel on Grand Avenue has been under construction since March.

"We just want them all to know that we appreciate their work and that we know the goal of reducing overflows into the Grand River is very important for Lansing," said Gus Pine, general manager at the Radisson.

Participating businesses will display window clings with the logo (above); please be sure to thank them for their support. Workers can look forward to additional appreciation events from these businesses as the CSO Control Program continues to move us toward a cleaner, greener Lansing.

## CSO Traffic Updates and Construction Progress

### Downtown – Grand Avenue

- Grand is closed to traffic; local businesses are open and detours are posted
- Walnut is closed to traffic between Ottawa and Shiawassee; local businesses are open and detours are posted
- Sanitary sewer installation complete on Walnut from Ottawa to Ionia
- Road building on Walnut from Ottawa to Ionia to begin within the next two weeks
- All utility and concrete work complete on Grand between Lenawee and Washtenaw
- Gravel and concrete placed on Grand between Michigan and Ottawa
- Utility work on Grand between Ottawa and Shiawassee to be completed within the next two weeks

### 018 SW – Larch from Saginaw to Grand River Avenue

- Larch closed to through traffic north of Saginaw; local businesses open and detours are posted



## TOP FIVE Reasons Too Much Rain is a Pain

- 1. Dilution is not the solution to pollution.** Lansing's old combined sewers were made to collect both sewage and stormwater. When capacity is reached, combined sewage overflows to the river. By separating our sewers (we're more than half done), we will eliminate these contaminated overflows and protect the river.
- 2. Sewers are only designed to handle a certain amount of rain.** Lansing's sewer system is designed to handle a "25-year rainfall". The rainfall on September 13-14 was nearly a 100-year event, and caused the system capacity to be exceeded in several locations.
- 3. Excess water has to go somewhere.** Once sewers are separated, all sanitary sewage will flow to the wastewater treatment plant. Overflow outfalls to the river will have been eliminated. If inflow (illicit stormwater) gets into the sanitary sewers and the system reaches capacity, sanitary sewers can backup into basements and out of manholes into the street.
- 4. There's a pond in my yard.** Heavy or extended rains reveal everyone's drainage issues. The City has its job to do, and property owners are responsible for removing their inflow sources. Common inflow culprits are downspouts that disappear underground and patio drains. Go to [LansingCSO.com](http://LansingCSO.com), and click on "Your Role" for more information.
- 5. When the sun shines.** Take a look on your property and note where rainfall or downspout water collects near your home's foundation. Redirecting water away from the foundation using a downspout extension, or other drain pipe can help prevent basement flooding.

- Traffic at Grand River and Larch to be shifted to the south side of the intersection next week
- Water services completed on May, installation of sanitary sewer has begun
- Curb and gutter installation complete on Larch from Oakland to Grand River; parkway restoration is underway
- Larch from Oakland to Grand River has been base paved
- Utilities on Larch between Oakland and Saginaw to be completed within the next two weeks
- Maple and Ash from Cedar to Larch has been base paved

### 020 – Shiawassee and Pennsylvania Area

- All streets have been final paved and are open to traffic
- 020 regulator has been abandoned

### 018 SE – Oakland and Pennsylvania Area

- Traffic has been shifted to the east side of Pennsylvania; traffic opened to two lanes northbound on Pennsylvania from Saginaw to Oakland, left lane must turn left at Oakland; Pennsylvania has been reduced to one lane northbound ONLY from Oakland to Grand River; side streets are open to traffic
- Cleveland, May, and Farrand have been base paved
- Water service work complete on Johnson; sanitary sewer and water main installation has begun
- All utilities installed in Camp and Cady
- Storm sewer installed and gravel placed on Pennsylvania from Porter to Saginaw
- Utility work completed on Pennsylvania from Saginaw to Grand River, road work to begin

### 013 NW – Neighborhood SW of Sheridan and Turner

- All streets have been final paved and are open to traffic
- Parkway restoration completed

### 045 – Larch from Michigan to Saginaw

- Larch between Michigan and Saginaw has been paved and is open
- Intermittent lane closures to be expected for final rehabilitation on Larch between Michigan and Saginaw
- Traffic is reduced to two lanes at the intersection of Larch and Saginaw
- Shiawassee between Cedar and Pere Marquette has been paved and is open
- Water main testing and water service installation complete on Linden Grove

### 034A – Neighborhood SE of MLK Jr and Mt Hope

- Local streets are open to traffic
- Utility work continuing on Stirling between Lenore and Gordon and on Beal from Poxson to the south end
- Curb and gutter installed on Rundle from MLK Jr to Woodbine
- Curb and gutter placed and road paved on Gordon from Stirling to Rundle and on Osband from Lenore to Beal

### 013 NE – Chilson and N East

- Traffic control is in place, one lane of traffic is open in each direction on N East; local businesses are open
- Two lanes of the west side of N East have been paved; traffic has been shifted from one lane of traffic in each direction on the east side to one lane of traffic in each direction on the west side of N East
- Pavement removal and sanitary sewer installation has begun on the east side of N East
- Concrete work and parkway restoration complete on Chilson and on the west side of N East
- Sanitary sewer work complete on Community, Howe, and Paulson

If you have any comments or suggestions, please send them to Alec Malvetis, Assistant City Engineer/CSO Project Manager at [amalveti@lansingmi.gov](mailto:amalveti@lansingmi.gov).

